

NEW SOUTH WALES, Burringbar. Mr. B. Harrison writes January 12 that four species of *Carissa* grow in New South Wales. The small specimen he saw of *C. ovata* appeared to be too insignificant either for ornamental or economic use. "There are many economic trees here, not yet known in the United States, among them being the fruit trees, *Hicksbeachia pinnatifolia* (red-nut), *Macadamia ternifolia* (Australian nut; is known in California), Adamsons, or the Sour Plum, Meston's mangosteen, native raspberries of several kinds, and many *Eugenias*, beautiful evergreen flowering shrubs, the fruit of most of them being edible, and native limes, etc."

NEW SOUTH WALES, Wahroonga. Mr. J. Staer writes January 16 that he will shortly send a collection of Australian grasses. He has only a small plant of *Carissa brownii* (or *ovata*) growing in his nursery, but in April or May he will make a trip to the forests where it grows, and procure seeds and plants, together with photograph and water color painting for us.

PARAGUAY, Cahi Puente. Mr. C. F. Mead writes December 26 and 30, 1910. "Of the guayaba (*Psidium guajava*) tree, there are at least eight varieties of which I know, all growing wild and differing both in size of tree and fruit, ranging from a shrub 2 feet high to trees 35 to 50 feet high, and the fruit from the size of a grape to the size of an orange. As regards this fruit, some doubt has arisen in my mind as to whether this guayaba found here may be the guava. In this section of Paraguay the guayaba is very scarce, but near Asuncion in towns of Aregua, Ipacarai and San Bernardino, it is very abundant growing wild, and in the latter town one may ride for miles through forests of guayaba where you can see thousands of tons of fruit on trees and in various stages of decay on ground. By first train during this week I am going to send a peon to Asuncion for medical aid and I will arrange with him to bring me as much seed and of as many different varieties as have merit. During this last week I was talking with my head capataz as regards maize and he informed me that in the Yerbales, about 10 days voyage north of Asuncion, the Indians have a class of maize, each ear of which is (don't laugh) from 30 to 36 inches long, that the plant is tall but a heavy cropper, 2 to 3 ears to each plant, and also that this kind is planted in virgin soil only. If you think it worth while, I will take a trip up that way with my capataz on conclusion of this work. I will stand all expenses as I need a vacation, though I haven't much of a hankering to mix up with those little Indians and their poisoned arrows. In about four months you will receive from me a shipment of cassava canes, or possibly seed before. This cassava matures sufficiently for eating purposes in $4\frac{1}{2}$ months, is at its prime from 6th to 7th month and will not last either above or below soil over 11 months. It must be planted in poor soil or it will all run to top."